



Curriculum Overview
Term 4– February 2025
Kestrel, Osprey and Falcon
Classes- Year 5/6



Dear Parents/ Carers

Welcome back to a brand-new Term. We hope you had a wonderful half-term break. We are looking forward to another jam-packed term full of exciting learning opportunities.

Topic

Our topic for the next two terms is called Our Country, Our World Our Universe. This is centred around the geographical enquiry question: Where in the world is Trowbridge and how do we link to the rest of the country? We will be exploring the regions and counties of the UK, developing our locational knowledge and ability to use a range of maps, including digital maps. We plan to investigate how Trowbridge may change in the future and what amenities our local community would like to see develop. We will also look at political links between the UK and Europe before zooming out to investigate the Universe through a more scientific lens.

In DT, we will be investigating structures, with a view to designing a structure for a playground.

In Science and PSHE, we will be studying healthy lifestyle choices and how exercise impacts our physical and mental wellbeing.

Our English this term will be based on the engaging novel, 'Running on Empty' which explores a number of issues. We will be writing in a range of genres including newspaper reports and discussion texts, as well as completing other response writing. We will also continue to explore spelling patterns and hone our grammar skills.

SATs preparation

As you are probably aware, in term 5 (week commencing 12th May) the year 6 children will be taking their Statutory Assessment Tests (SATs). This is a measure of how much they have progressed throughout the school in reading, grammar and maths. This only gives a very small snapshot of the talents and skills that these amazing children possess; it *does not* show off their wonderful skills in art, or their amazing knowledge of the world around them. Neither does it measure how kind, empathetic or resilient they can be. We absolutely do not want the children to feel under pressure and feel stressed about their performance in these tests but we do want them to feel prepared and confident as they move forward towards secondary school and proud of the progress they have made during their time at Paxcroft.

A number of parents have asked about revision guides for children to complete extra work at home. Although we will be setting some additional tasks on Learning By Questions, based on areas where they may feel less confident, we will not be sending home revision books. If you would like to purchase your own guides, then take a look at the CGP website where they sell books for the end of KS2 tests. **Please do not feel under any obligation to purchase these. It is entirely optional.** A link to these can be found below.

[Primary SATS Books | CGP Books](#)

The SATs week timetable is as follows:

Monday 12 th May	English grammar, punctuation and spelling papers 1 and 2
Tuesday 13 th May	English Reading
Wednesday 14 th May	Maths Papers 1 and 2
Thursday 15 th May	Maths Paper 3

During Sats Week, we host a free Sats breakfast for pupils in Year 6 from Monday to Thursday. A reminder will be sent out about this closer to the time giving more details.

Home Learning

Daily	Weekly
Regular reading both independently and with an adult/older sibling. Maths/ number facts/ times tables practice Spelling practice either on Spellingframe or on the statutory word sheets. Learning by Questions	Spellings- Homework task set each Monday due in for the following Friday. (Falcon) Osprey – work is set on Wednesday due on next Friday. Kestrel set on Monday tested on the following Monday We will alternate each week between setting spelling patterns on Spellingframe and setting statutory words in their spelling folders.

Keep up the use of the online programmes for learning – Learning by Questions, Purple Mash, spellingframe and TT rockstars – they are brilliant resources to help consolidate what the children are doing in class. Please make sure they are recording the work they are doing in your green homework diaries so that we can celebrate this in school.

Reading

Reading is an essential part of the children’s learning and we cannot stress enough how beneficial it is for the children to be reading regularly at home. Children in Upper Key Stage Two are encouraged to develop stamina in reading. We will ensure that the book children are reading is appropriately pitched for their ability (whether this is a book they have borrowed from school or a book they are reading from home) and they are encouraged to read whole texts rather than flitting between books. This will enable them to develop their stamina in reading and understanding of character and plot development. For advice on how to support your child with their reading and how to develop their comprehension please visit our class webpage on the school website. Here you will find key questions designed to enhance their understanding of texts.

Expectations and responsibilities

PE Kit

PE sessions will be held on the days stated below; however, there will be occasions where we will need to be flexible so please ensure your child has their PE kit available in school every day.

PE kit should consist of black shorts or jogging bottoms, their house-coloured plain t-shirt and their school jumper.

Falcon –Thursday and Friday Morning

Osprey – Tuesday morning and Friday afternoon

Kestrel – Wednesday afternoon and Friday afternoon

Planning time

During our planning time, the children will be covered within the year 5/6 team. This will be on the following days:

Kestrel – Tuesday afternoon

Falcon – Tuesday Morning

Osprey – Thursday afternoon

Stationery and other personal belongings

The children are provided with all the equipment they will need on a day-to-day basis; therefore, children **will not need to have their own pencil cases in school.**

Children should bring in a bottle of **water** (preferably with a sports cap) for use within the classroom.

Behaviour

We continue to be impressed by the mature nature in which many of our year 5 and 6s have taken to the supporting roles throughout the school. This term we will be continuing the Playground Pals role with a new group of eager children and developing the reading buddy role with the reception children. These roles actively promote our Paxcroft Citizen Values of Kindness and respect.

As one of our learner's values, we encourage the children's independence in communicating messages; however, any important messages can be communicated via email to the office admin@paxcroft.wilts.sch.uk or please feel free to pop in and see us; we hold an open door policy and are more than happy to arrange a convenient time to meet.

Kind regards

Mrs Sager, Miss Spratt and Miss Westlake